Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Classmates Settlement Complaint Deadline is October 8

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MADISON – The deadline for Wisconsin consumers to receive restitution from the state's recent consent judgment against Classmates, Inc. ("Classmates") is quickly approaching. To be considered for eligibility, consumer complaints to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) must be postmarked or received by October 8th.

Classmates does business as Classmates.com, a social networking website for reconnecting with high school friends. Wisconsin obtained the consent judgment at the conclusion of a multi-state investigation involving 22 states. Pursuant to the settlement, the company is required to deposit \$3 million in an account to pay restitution to affected consumers in those states.

Those eligible for restitution include Classmates customers who enrolled in the company's subscription services on or after January 1, 2008. The complaints must involve the conduct addressed in the consent judgment including:

- Classmates charging the consumer's account without the consumer's authorization;
- Classmates using automatic subscription renewals without the consumer's knowledge;
 or
- Classmates charging the consumer's account after the consumer cancelled the subscription services.

Within ninety days of the end of the claim period, Classmates will send to each consumer who submitted an eligible complaint a refund check for the amount the consumer alleges he/she paid in unauthorized charges, minus any amount already refunded by the company. If the total funds provided for payment of restitution claims to the residents of the settling states is insufficient to cover all the eligible complaints, then all eligible consumers who submitted an eligible complaint will receive a pro rata refund of any amount otherwise due.

If you wish to file a complaint, visit the DATCP website at http://datcp.wisconsin.gov to file online or to download a complaint form. To request a complaint form by mail, call DATCP's Consumer Protection Hotline at 1-800-422-7128.

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